## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

lication No

PCT/IB 03/06053 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G06F11/14 G11 G11B7/00 G11B19/20 G06F1/30 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G06F G11B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° Relevant to claim No. X US 6 396 777 B1 (THOMAS STEVEN PAUL) 1-8 28 May 2002 (2002-05-28) column 3 - column 6 X US 5 365 502 A (MISONO KOUSUKE) 1-6.815 November 1994 (1994-11-15) column 8 X US 5 761 519 A (ABE YOSHIAKI ET AL) 1-6,82 June 1998 (1998-06-02) column 3 - column 6 X EP 0 679 983 A (IBM) 1-6,82 November 1995 (1995-11-02) column 3 - column 18 X EP 0 565 091 A (SONY CORP) 1-6.813 October 1993 (1993-10-13) column 3 - column 7 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but clted to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docudocument referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 24 March 2004 02/04/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Damp, S Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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